

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An alternator comprising:

a case;

a rotor disposed inside said case, said rotor including a rotor coil for generating a magnetic flux on passage of an electric current therethrough, and a plurality of claw-shaped magnetic poles extending in an axial direction and covering said rotor coil, said claw-shaped magnetic poles being magnetized into North-seeking (N) and South-seeking (S) poles by said magnetic flux;

a stator including a stator core provided with a plurality of slots formed so as to extend axially and be spaced circumferentially, and a stator winding mounted to said stator core;

at least one brush for supplying electric current from an electric power supply to said rotor coil;

a brush holding assembly secured to said case, said brush holding assembly ~~holding said brush within~~ comprising a holding portion housing said brush, and ~~including a cover disposed on a head portion of said holding portion and~~ capable of being opened to remove said brush;

a brush terminal electrically connected to said brush; and

an open portion for removal and insertion of said brush being formed at a position on said case facing said cover,

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wherein said brush holding assembly includes a holding assembly terminal, said holding assembly terminal and said brush terminal are electrically connected by a connection member, and said holding assembly terminal, said brush terminal and said connection member are covered by said cover which is exposed in said open portion.

2. (Original) The alternator according to Claim 1 wherein said brush holding assembly extends to a vicinity of said open portion.

3. Canceled

4. Canceled

5. (Previously Presented) The alternator according to Claim 1, wherein said connection member is a screw.

6. (Previously Presented) The alternator according to Claim 5, wherein said screw is inserted into and removed from a connection portion where said holding assembly terminal and said brush terminal are connected in a circumferential direction relative to said rotor.

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7. (Previously Presented) The alternator according to Claim 5, wherein said screw is inserted into and removed from a connection portion where said holding assembly terminal and said brush terminal are connected in an axial direction relative to said rotor.

8. (Original) The alternator according to Claim 1 wherein a regulator for adjusting a magnitude of an alternating voltage generated in said stator and a cooling plate placed in contact with said regulator are disposed on said brush holding assembly so as to overlap in an axial direction relative to said rotor.

9. (Original) The alternator according to Claim 1 wherein a conducting wire of said stator winding extends outwards in an axial direction from an end surface of said stator core and is formed into coil ends having a uniform shape in a circumferential direction.

10. (Previously Presented) The alternator according to claim 1, further comprising a cap member removably mounted over said open portion for allowing access to said brush holding assembly via said open portion.

11. Canceled